BENGALURU, MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 26 | Min 18 | Humidity 86% Generally cloudy sky Sensex 62,181 | Nifty 18,496 | Gold 54,295 | Silver 68,103 | Dollar 82.42 | Euro 86.88 | GBP 101.03

Leachate leaking during vehicle-to-vehicle transfer of mixed waste at illegal trash transit points entering waterbodies across Bengaluru

TIP OF THE TRASH BERG

Instances reported in Varthur, Bellandur, Sarjapur, KR Puram

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has an obligation to preserve water bodies from all types of pollution and ensure Bengaluru is clean and neat. The civic body is mandated to act tough against those converting public places into black spots. But who shall hold BBMP responsible for not only being negligent towards its responsibility but also polluting the environment?

The BBMP's solid waste management department has been negligent towards keeping public places clean and neat at various locations in the city. It is nauseating to see the SWD authorities turning oblivious to unethical and unjustifiable actions of those engaged to transport mixed waste to the designated landfill or waste management unit.

For instance, an old bridge near Varthur Lake has been converted into a garbage transfer centre.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

An old bridge at Varthur is being used for transferring garbage from auto tippers to compactor vehicles

> "Vengaiah Lake bed is being used for transferring garbage into compactor vehicles from auto tippers...
> — Balaji Raghotham, civic activist

Importance of taking notes, and notebooks

Student trio on mission to provide study materials, notebooks for underprivileged govt schoolchildren

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Three youngsters from Bengaluru are on a mission to help underprivileged government schoolchildren by providing study materials. Through their initiative, they were able to provide over 1,000 plus notebooks to the government schoolchildren who have now started using the notebooks.

It was during last year, when 18-year-old Jigisha Hota, 16-year-old Kalvin Richard and 17-year-old Nandika H came up with the idea of catering to the educational needs of underprivileged students — such as books and study material — in developing areas of Bengaluru.

The trio learnt that many government schoolchildren do not have notebooks as they cannot afford the same. The youngsters then decided to help them; they first visited the Kalkera Government School to understand how the students are coping without notebooks.

"We saw that none of the children had notebooks. Everybody had textbooks while the class was on; they were not taking notes — without taking notes, it is difficult for the children to go back home and study as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 For all hues

The popular Mela is back in Bengaluru. All set to launch the 4th edition of all-day queer festival, Satrangi Mela, a hospitality chain, dedicates it to encourage queer talent and queer-owned businesses. Honouring the artists, the celebration would focus on the under-represented aspects of the queer experiences.
Where: Indiranagar SOCIAL, Plot 37, 80 Feet Road, HAL 3rd Stage, New Tippasandra;
When: Sunday, December 18; 12 pm – 7 pm

02 Celebrate the classics

Get a chance to attend an evening of music that would feature legends like Ustad Zakir Hussain, Vidushi Kala Ramnath, and Vidushi Jayanthi Kumaresh. Presented by Bhoomija Trust, the confluence will define the coming together of the tabla, veena and the violin. Having toured the United States extensively, the confluence comes to India for the first time.
Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval
When: Tuesday, December 13; 7:30 pm

03 For ignited minds

Inventure Academy with Dr Sumer Singh, brings the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Conclave for school leaders. Being conducted with the aim to provide a platform that would benefit educators, let the participants ideate on innovative teaching and learning practices. The two day session will help to build an ecosystem of innovation. **Where: 2274, Tumkur Road, Yeshwanthpur Industrial Area, Phase 1 (Dec 14); Whitefield, SH 35, near Dommasandra Circle (Dec 15); When: December 14 and 15; 9 am**

Way to govt job is paved with steep fee hurdles

With many getting left out of competitive exam sphere due to high costs, Youth Parliament demands lower application, coaching fees for aspirants

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Students belonging to economically weaker section of the society are ubable to avail coaching

Government job aspirants in Karnataka have demanded the application fee for jobs to be reduced in the state along with several other demands. Karnataka State Competitive Examination Aspirants Association (KSCEAA) held a 'Youth Parliament' on Friday where several issues were discussed by the government job aspirants in the state. A few of the major complaints that stood out were high application fees and coaching fees for the aspirants.

Bhavya Narasimhamurthy, KSCEAA president told Bangalore Mirror that a majority of the aspiring students belong to economically weaker sections. Hence, they are unable to avail of coaching for the preparation of competitive exams like the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) examination.

"Several issues were discussed by the aspirants and a few changes were suggested at this youth parliament. A majority of aspirants complained that the application fee is too high for government jobs. These students get Rs 3000 to Rs 5000 from their parents in a month, and investing Rs 500 to Rs 600 per application form can be hard for many," she said. The aspirants also demanded that free coaching be provided for exams like KPSC and Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) virtually so more students are able to avail the benefits.

"The government provides free coaching to a few top students by giving them a certain stipend that they use for coaching at private institutes. The aspirants have questioned why they cannot conduct this coaching virtually so more aspirants are able to attend it," she added.

"A huge number of these students belong to economically weaker sections that cannot afford private coaching by themselves. So it does not make much sense to only provide it to a few students," she explained.

This year, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had announced during the budget speech that online coaching will be provided for those appearing for several competitive examinations including KPSC, UPSC, Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Banking, Railway, Combined Defence Services Examination (CDS), National Engineering Entrance Test (NEET), the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) as well as other competitive examinations under the 'Mukhyamantri Vidyarthi Margadarshini' scheme.

The KPSC secretary also addressed the aspirants at the youth parliament on Friday. This was the first session conducted by KSCEAA. However, they will be organising more such events to discuss the issues related to state competitive exams in the coming months, Narasimha Murthy informed.

Bettahalasur & Doddajala stations to see light of day?

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Doddajala Halt Station has been in the pipeline for long

For a long time, there has been a demand to reopen the train stations of Doddajala and Bettahalasur. According to Shyam Singh, Railway Manager of South Western Railways (SWR) division, the proposal for the re-opening of Doddajala Halt Station and stoppage of all airport train services at Doddajala and Bettahalasur is under consideration and will be finalised soon.

"The ticket fare is just Rs 30 for a trip which is considerably cheap compared to other modes of transport. Trains to Kempegowda International Airport Halt Station (KIAD) provide an economical and efficient mode of transport to business commuters and is environment friendly as it supports the railways' initiative in reducing the carbon footprint. Passengers are requested to make full use of these train services," he said.

"An increase in frequency as well as the extension of train services to the airport will be explored based on the patronage of existing train services in the coming days. We are working to ensure that airport trains will be as punctual as possible," he added.

Recently, there were instances of little delay in services to KIAD due to ongoing safety-related works between Yelahanka and Devanahalli.

"Within a short period of three weeks, these works are targeted for completion which will improve punctuality to a great extent. The timings of the mainline electric multiple unit (MEMU) and diesel-electric multiple unit (DEMU) services to the airport as well as stoppages can also be obtained from the National Train Enquiry System (NTES) website," he explained.

"Bengaluru city is growing and many may take trains to reach their destinations. If we can promote stations like Doddajala and Bettahalasur, then many residents staying near those stations will benefit," said a railway passenger.

Lost gold returned

Woman loses gold ornaments worth ₹5 lakh; porter saves her day

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

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It is not uncommon to hear stories about commuters losing cash or gold during train journeys, but for a change, a woman who had lost her gold ornaments worth Rs 5 lakh got it back, thanks to a good Samaritan.

Sangeetha was travelling to the city via Talaguppa Mysuru train and got down at KSR Bengaluru City Railway Station platform 10 on Sunday morning. She wanted to take the next train to Bangarpet. Hence, she walked from there to platform 6, only to realise that she had lost her box which contained gold ornaments worth Rs 5 lakh. She had kept the valuables in a carry-on bag. Following her discovery, she approached the city railway police.

Around the same time, Mohammed Eizaz, a licensed porter, had found the box on platform 10 and handed it over to Deputy Station Manager (Commercial) so that it could be handed over to the railway police.

Deputy Station Manager Sridhar immediately informed the Railway Protection Force. The items were identified and handed over to the rightful owner in the presence of railway police after the completion of legal formalities. "I didn't realise that the box had fallen out from my bag at the platform. I really appreciate the honesty of the porter," said Sangeetha.

Illegal casino raid

Meanwhile, Central Crime Branch police raided a casino in Indiranagar and detained more than 20 people. According to the police, the casino was functioning in an under-construction building.

The casino was being run illegally with a license in the name of Golden Chips Sports and Cultural Association.

"We are checking the CCTV surveillance footage and more than 20 people are being interrogated," informed police.

G20 भारत 2023 INDIA

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December, 2022
15

Pay your 3rd instalment of Advance Tax for F.Y. 2022-23 by 15th December, 2022

Taxpayers liable to pay Advance Tax

Any assessee, including salaried employee, whose tax liability for the financial year as reduced by tax deducted/collected at source is Rs. 10,000/- or more.

Resident Senior Citizen not having income from business/profession is not liable to pay.

Mode of Payment

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e-Payment is convenient for other taxpayers also as it ensures correct credit.

Schedule for Payment of Advance Tax

Due Date	Amount
1) On or before 15th June, 2022	15% of the Advance Tax payable
2) On or before 15th September, 2022	45% of the Advance Tax payable
3) On or before 15th December, 2022	75% of the Advance Tax payable
4) On or before 15th March, 2023	100% of the Advance Tax payable

Short/Non-payment or deferment of payment of Advance Tax will result in levy of interest

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Water connections cut, Sanjaynagar left thirsting

BESCOM has cut lines to public borewells here due to non-payment of bills by BBMP, BWSSB

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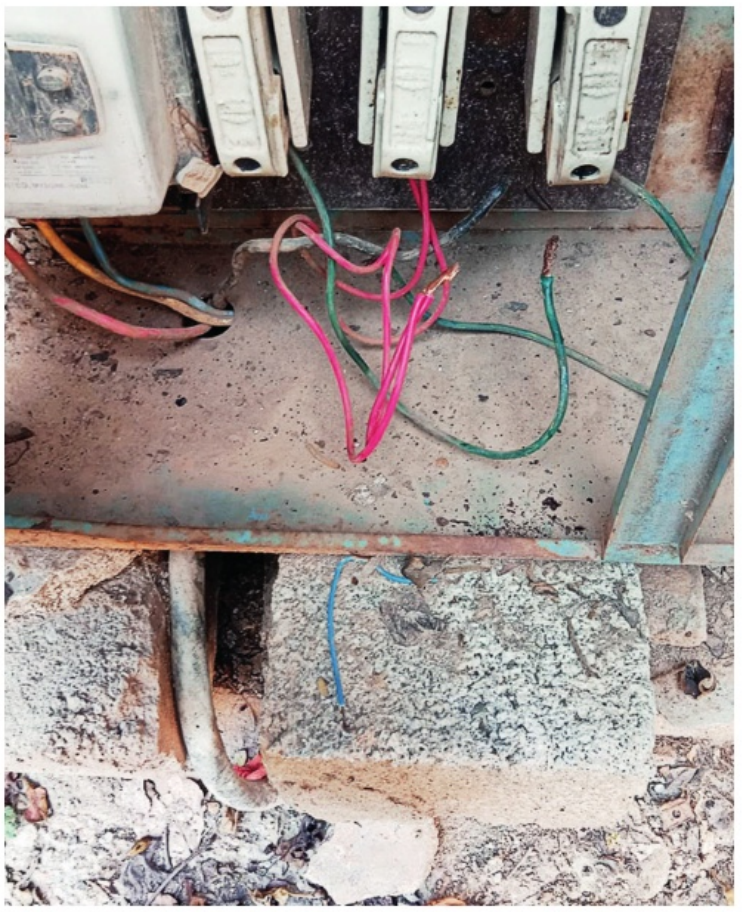
Residents of Sanjaynagar have been left in the lurch with no water supply. Connections to public borewells, used largely by economically weaker sections, have been disconnected by BESCOM officials, leaving them at the mercy of water tankers.

Roughly 100 houses in Basaveshwara Layout, Sanjaynagar, were shocked to find that their public borewells were not working. Upon checking, they found out that someone had cut the connection to the borewell.

While residents were not informed by concerned officials, they surmised it was BESCOM after reading reports about pending bills from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB). According to the reports published in November, the BWSSB has arrears amounting to Rs 65.09 crore, and BBMP, Rs 54.53 crores. The departments were instructed to make payments within seven days.

A resident of the area, Munawar, told Bangalore Mirror, "For the past two or three days, we have been facing a major water supply issue due to disconnection of the borewells. We were not issued any notification regarding the same either. The connection has been cut for non-payment of bills. If officials pay the bill at the earliest, public inconvenience can be avoided. Officials say that they have been given four days to clear the dues. We have to depend on water tankers by paying Rs 600-700 per tanker. Some houses don't even have a water sump and collect water in large drums, creating more problems. Almost 40-50 per cent of houses don't have Cauvery supply as well."



Residents were not informed about the disconnections by officials

> **After developing borewells, it was handed over to BWSSB for maintenance. BESCOM has disconnected water supply to the ordinary public**
> –Vignan Gowda, RWA member

A Residents' Welfare Association member, Vignan Gowda, said that some of these borewells come under BBMP and some come under BWSSB. "After developing borewells, it was handed over to the BWSSB for maintenance. BESCOM has disconnected the water supply and there is no water for the ordinary public. We requested the BESCOM officials to give us two days and temporarily restore the connection, but this is not a permanent solution. We have also written to the BBMP Chief Commissioner, highlighting the issue."

BESCOM officials confirmed that they have cut the connections for non-payment of bills.

Responding to the complaint, area BBMP officials said that they were working on the issue.

"The correct procedure is to issue notice, and payment is under process. We don't understand the decision behind cutting connections," said a BWSSB official.

Much awaited makeover in Munnekola

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The space below the Munnekola railway over bridge (ROB), which would be waterlogged every time it rained, has now been fixed with road profile correction carried out by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The stretch has even received a space transformation and looks clean and tidy now.

A few months ago, following heavy downpour in the city, the space under the ROB was completely flooded. The water was not flowing into the drains and accumulating on the road. This caused a lot of problems for the daily commuters. When BBMP officials inspected the area, it was found that there was no gradient for the water to flow down the drains with ease. This is why correction was carried out.

The road level was raised by adding in hot mix, and the slope of the road was changed, which enabled the rainwater to flow down into the drain smoothly.

The Ugly Indian team and BBMP workers joined forces for space transformation work

Clement Jaykumar, Secretary of Mahadevpura Task Force, said, "During the rains, the water used to get accumulated on the road for up to eight inches. The water would just stay there and wouldn't flow down the drain. It was important to carry a permanent fix and the road profile correction was carried out to ensure that. Rainwater has been easily flowing down the drain since then. "

The U-turn ahead of the Munnekola ROB is used by hundreds of commuters every day to go to Varthur and other areas. There are also three apartment complexes located in the zone - Apartment Purva Fountain square, Rohan Vasantha, and Purva Rivera. They house over 3000 people that use the U-turn to travel to different locations.

As many people pass through the road under the ROB, there was a need to carry out spot fixation. The pillars of the ROB had all been stuck with posters and the wall paint was faded. There was also extensive dumping of garbage and debris across the stretch.

The Ugly Indian team and BBMP came forward for the space transformation. It was painted with different colours under the theme 'I love Mahadevpura' and the entire section was cleaned. All the debris and waste were removed from the spot.

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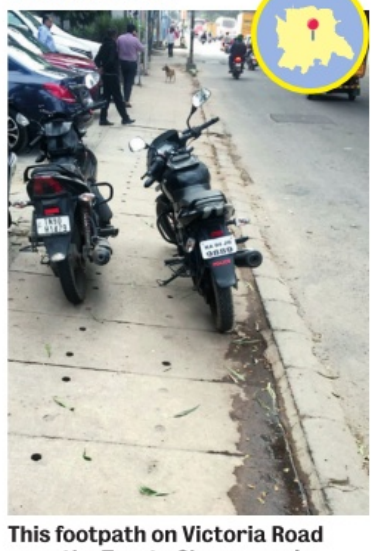
Encroachment
Jayanagar

A two-wheeler workshop on 10th Main, Jayanagar 4th Block, near Sri Krishna Sevashrama hospital has occupied both sides of the footpath.

Shop block
Railway Parallel Road

A shop on the footpath in Railway Parallel Road, Kumara Park West, is blocking pedestrians.

Walkers troubled
Victoria Road



This footpath on Victoria Road near the Toyota Showroom is being obstructed.

After furore over extortion, 2 constables suspended

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Following backlash on social media, city police suspended two police constables for misbehaving with a couple recently.

On Sunday, police said that policemen have been suspended and the department is taking action against them for extorting money from the two. "Two police officers from Sampigehalli police station who were involved in the incident have been identified, suspended, and departmental action has been taken," said police.

Karthik Patri, a resident of the city, posted a Twitter thread on December 9 describing a harrowing encounter that left him and his wife startled. He said "It was around 12:30 midnight. My wife and I were walking back home after attending a friend's cake-cutting ceremony (we live in a society behind Manyata Tech park). We were a few metres away from our entrance gate when a pink Hoysala patrol van stopped by us. Two men in police uniforms asked us to show our ID cards. We were taken aback. Why should an adult couple walking on the street on a normal day be asked to show their ID cards? Then they took our phones and said that it is not allowed to roam around outside after 11 pm. They refused to let us go and demanded Rs 3,000 as penalty."

Patri added that the policemen threatened to arrest them if the requested sum was not paid.

"They threatened us with grave consequences if we didn't pay up and showed us photographs of prisoners. My wife was in tears and I was having a hard time keeping it together. Initially, I paid Rs 1000 to stay out of trouble, but is this not terrorism?" his post further read.

The Twitter thread made by Patri went viral on social media and netizens started questioning the blatant abuse of power by the policemen.

LINGERING DRIZZLE EFFECT IN CITY

Your order is on the way... Nah, forget about it

As restaurants shut early to prevent staffers from having to brave bad weather, food delivery apps fail to deliver

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Cyclone Mandous has caused incessant rains and strong winds in the city. One service that was particularly badly hit due to this grim weather was food delivery. Most apps stopped service during the late hours of the night on Saturday, catching the people working the night shift by surprise and in a very hungry mood indeed.

Many citizens told BM that they tried to order food many times, but were unsuccessful. Rajesh Nair, a resident of Jalahalli, said, "It was a bit late at night and there was no electricity at home because of the heavy rains, so my wife was having difficulties cooking. So, we thought of ordering food from outside. However, on opening the apps, I found that none of the restaurants were delivering. I tried different apps, but the situation was the same for all of them."

Some said they managed to place the order and money was deducted too, but later got a notification that the restaurant was not delivering. Adithya Singh, a student staying in Yeshwantpur, said, "I stay in a flat with my roommates and we had assignments due on Monday. No one had the time to cook. So, late at night, we were hungry and decided to order some food. There were no restaurants available. After downloading so many apps, we finally found one restaurant which was delivering. So we placed our order. However, after waiting for almost 45 minutes, when we checked the order status it was still showing that it would take one hour to deliver. We called the restaurant, but the number remained switched off. We called customer care and were told that the restaurant had shut and my order would be canceled shortly and my refund will be processed."

"We placed our order. However, after waiting for almost 45 minutes, when we checked the order status it was still showing that it would take one hour to deliver. We called the restaurant, but the number remained switched off

Jijin Ashok, an IT professional staying in Nagasandra, faced a similar issue. He said, "I work the night shift and I often get hungry at night. Yesterday, I did not want to disturb anyone at home, so I was trying to place an order. After trying several times, I found a restaurant and placed an order. However, after 30 minutes, the delivery valet called me and told me that the restaurant was closed."

A representative from Café Casavista, a café situated in Dasarahalli, told BM they had to shut early because of the extreme weather conditions. "We did not want any of our staff to get stuck in that weather. So, after 9 pm, we stopped taking any kind of orders."

More rain is brewing in the Bay of Bengal?

The intensity of cyclone-induced rainfall increased on Sunday forcing many to stay indoors. With this year-end rain, 2022 was the year when the city received record rainfall.

And what is more, more rain is round the corner, as another weather system is brewing in the Bay of Bengal which may bring showers in mid-December. It is still not clear though if the weather system will turn into a cyclone.

According to Mahesh Palawat, Chief Meteorologist of Skymet Weather, a cyclonic circulation may form over south Andaman Sea, the same location where cyclone Mandous originated, around December 13.

"It may intensify into a low pressure or a well-marked low pressure, but not a deep depression or a cyclone. There may not be enough moisture or energy from the sea for the system to pick up to intensify. We may have to wait and see," he said.

"Some weather models show the new system may form around December 16 and may develop further, some show the system weak," said Pradeep John, a weather forecasting enthusiast and blogger.

Highs and lows

On Saturday, Vidyaranyapura recorded the highest rainfall of 59.5mm. The highest temperature in the city was recorded as 22.1°C at Kengeri and lowest of 17.2°C at Yelahanka.

Rainfall occurred at most places over coastal Karnataka, south interior Karnataka and at a few places over north interior Karnataka including 80 mm at Kolar followed by 70 mm at Chintamani and Rayalpadu.

Kempegowda International Airport recorded 60 mm, Hoskote 50 mm, Yelehanka IAF 40 mm, HAL Airport, Hesaraghatta and Gopal Nagar reported 30 mm, each.

The low pressure area (remnant of the cyclonic storm Mandous) over north interior Tamil Nadu and adjoining south interior Karnataka and north Kerala had become less marked.

However, the associated upper air cyclonic circulation persisted over the same region and extended up to middle tropospheric level. It was likely to emerge into the southeast and adjoining east central Arabian Sea off north Kerala and Karnataka coasts by Monday.

Under its influence, a low pressure area is likely to form over the same region around Tuesday. It would move west-northwestwards away from the Indian coast gradually thereafter.

Squally wind speed reaching 35-45 kmph gusting to 55 kmph likely to prevail over southeast and adjoining east central Arabian Sea, along and off Kerala and Karnataka coasts during Monday, and over east central and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea between December 13-15.

Due to this, Bengaluru will generally have a cloudy sky for the next two days with light rains. Mist is very likely during early morning hours in some areas. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 25 and 18 degree Celsius, respectively. **BMB**

Grounds for incompetence

2019 Karnataka High Court order directing concerned authorities to provide burial grounds to villages that lack them not implemented yet in 2022

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Despite the High Court directive and emergency directions from the state revenue department to provide burial grounds in villages, authorities concerned are yet to do so.

The High Court had directed the state government on August 20, 2019 to provide burial grounds to all the villages and towns which do not have them within a period of six months from the date of the order. The revenue department issued an emergency order last July to all deputy commissioners to buy land from private property owners and use such land for burial grounds.

It is estimated that out of 29,438 villages, 20 per cent of the villages (4,370) do not have burial grounds.

Following a report published in Vijaya Karnataka on October 11, about the plight of a son to bury the mortal remains of his father, Karnataka Upalokayukta had registered a suo moto case. The Upalokayukta had issued notices to Hanur taluk tahsildar, taluk panchayat executive officer, and Hutturu gram panchayat development officer seeking an explanation for the lack of burial grounds.

The Upalokayukta had given them six weeks to submit their report on or before November 30.

Meanwhile, Chamarajanagar Deputy Commissioner passed an order on October 21, allocating 30,492 sq ft of land for the purpose of proving burial ground in VS Doddi. The tahsildar submitted a report to the Upalokayukta stating that he would identify the villages that have no burial grounds and allocate land for the same in Hanur taluk.

The condition of the burial ground in Byalya village in Madhugiri taluk of Tumakuru district

Activists want improvement

Social activists demanded the state revenue department officials to implement the High Court and Upalokayukta's order to provide burial grounds to all villages that have none. "I am of the opinion that revenue officials, including deputy commissioners, consider applications from upper caste communities. They did not consider applications from downtrodden sections of the society," said HM Venkatesh, a social activist.

There was a demand for a burial ground from a village near Yelahanka a few years ago, he added.

> **A tahsildar has pocketed Rs 5 lakh by claiming to have developed the burial ground at Badavanahalli village in Madhugiri taluk**
>
> –Handral Nagabhushan, social activist

According to Handral Nagabhushan, another social activist, the state government allocated Rs 2.50 crore for the development of burial grounds in Tumakuru district more than a decade ago.

"The revenue department spent less than half of the sanctioned amount for the development of burial grounds in the district. A tahsildar has pocketed Rs 5 lakh by claiming to have developed the burial ground at Badavanahalli village in Madhugiri taluk," he said.

The burial ground was developed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA).

"I complained to the Upalokayuta about the misappropriation of the fund. They made the tahsildar deposit Rs 10 lakh (including interest for Rs 5 lakh) with the revenue department, but no action was taken against him. The burial ground is not developed till date even though funds are available," he explained.

The condition of a burial ground in Byalya is also very poor, he added.

'When will our oil prices drop?'

Crude prices in the international market may have slipped to less than $90 a barrel, but there is no indication that there will be a drop in prices of petrol and diesel any time soon. Currently, a litre of petrol in Bengaluru is sold for Rs 101.94, and diesel, Rs 87.89. For Indian crude oil (dollar per barrel), it was $97.40 in August and since then it has been slipping. In September, it was $90.71; October: $ 91.70; November; $87.55 and December 8: $72.11.

"It's been a long time since we saw the revision of crude prices. When the crude prices have gone down, we expect the same to be transferred to the public. Earlier, when crude prices were increasing daily, the oil companies were not hesitating for the daily revision. We wonder why the oil companies are now not passing on to the benefits to the public," said Sandesh R, a resident of RR Nagar.

However, a fuel pump owner said that despite a sharp decline in crude prices in international markets, the fuel prices may not come down in Bengaluru. Once, the crude prices were trading at $125 per barrel, but now it is less than $80 per barrel. The Centre had earlier reduced excise duties to cushion the hike. It is to be seen what measures will be taken now. He added, "I feel that even if the fuel prices are reduced by Rs 2 or Rs 3 per litre, it may not make much difference."

A representative of the oil marketing company said, "The oil companies have made huge losses pegged at Rs 122 crore. Now, they are buying time to make up for the losses." However, people say that it is time to reduce the prices as it can also bring down inflation. "The fuel prices have gone up after things returned to normalcy post Covid. This rise has resulted in prices of many commodities going up," said Sandhya S, a homemaker. **–BMB**

Long road to betterment in Carmelaram

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After a 14-month-wait, the pothole-ridden Carmelaram Main Road is finally being asphalted and water logging issues are resolved.

After several complaints, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) started asphalting the stretch between Carmelaram Railway Level Crossing to Sarjapur Main Road. The work is being taken up under the Nava Nagarothana scheme, in collaboration with nine government parastatals.

Secretary of Mahadevapura Task Force (Mobility) Clement Jayakumar said, "Currently, only 0.8 km has been completed. The Dense Bituminous Macadam (DBM) layer has been laid and the Bituminous Concrete (BC) layer is pending. The road slopes from the railway line towards Chikkabellandur Lake. Waterlogging at the level crossing used to happen due to non-existent drains underneath the railway line."

Carmelaram Main Road had been full of potholes, accumulated water

Noting the plight of commuters, BBMP took up white topping for about 100 m near the level crossing. The roadside drains were also redone to increase the carrying capacity and prevent waterlogging. The roadside drains continue up to Chikkabellandur lake. The BBMP also incurred hurdles regarding cooperation between BESCOM, GAIL, Railways, and BWSSB, which were ultimately resolved.

The Tree Expert Committee has allowed the axing of 149 trees, relocation of 24 trees, and protection of 29 trees. "Initially, the request for cutting trees was made for the road and the overbridge coming up at the level crossing. However, the combined request was sent seven months ago. We finally received the permission to cut trees by November-end. Tree axing will only commence after the Forest Department inspects and verifies the relocation of the trees. Another few months of delay is expected for the completion of this project," added Jayakumar.

Urban experts say that any proposal delays can be drastically reduced by taking environmental damage into account while preparing plans.

Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation said "While some environmental loss is inevitable for infrastructural growth in the city, delays in the project can be reduced by coordinating with parastatals and including environmental costs within the DPR. BBMP should immediately share the DPR with the Forest Department and have public consultations."

Urban activist Sandeep Anirudhan said, "There is a middle ground between concretisation and environment protections - sustainable development. Right now, the balance is leaning too far towards concretisation. To attain sustainable development, we require planning and rule of law. Corruption-ridden planning is why they get held up. If they were done properly in compliance with laws, there would not be any roadblocks. There is also a need for road planning to focus on mobility of citizens rather than being vehicle-centric."

HEALTH TIP: Exercise isn't about suffering and pushing yourself; it's about being healthy and having fun at the same time

Try to consume your vitamins and minerals through your diet rather than through pills

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Mood-changing food

People can have food sensitivities without noticeable symptoms; long-term consumption of food allergens may lead to behaviour changes

The prevalence of food allergies is increasing worldwide, approaching an epidemic level in some regions. Some patients have mild symptoms that might not need medical attention, leaving these cases unreported. Food allergies, or food hypersensitivities, result from the overreaction of the immune system to typically harmless proteins in food. They can manifest as a spectrum of symptoms, ranging from itching, redness, and swelling for milder reactions, to vomiting, diarrhoea, difficulty breathing, and other potentially life-threatening symptoms for severe reactions.

Besides self-reporting, food allergies can be diagnosed by exposing patients to trace amounts of offending proteins, or allergens, via their mouth or skin and observing their immediate reactions. More commonly, doctors use blood tests to measure the levels of immunoglobulin E, or IgE, a specialised antibody that the immune system uses to identify allergens and trigger a response.

Although healthy individuals may have low levels of IgE in the blood, patients with food allergies have much higher levels that increase their risk of having severe allergic reactions. But some people who test positive on skin-prick allergy tests with moderate increases in IgE don't notice any allergy-related symptoms when they eat the allergen. This condition is sometimes referred to as asymptomatic sensitisation. In many cases, people with this condition may not even be aware that they have food hypersensitivity.

Are they truly asymptomatic, though? Or are there effects within their body that they aren't aware of?

I am a neuroscientist studying how the brain is affected by food allergies. I became interested in this topic when I found that some of my family members had a hypersensitivity to cow's milk. Some totally avoid dairy products because they have experienced severe, life-threatening symptoms. Those who don't have typical allergic reactions occasionally eat dairy, but appear to develop seemingly unrelated illnesses a day or two later. What I and other researchers have found is that food allergens can affect your brain and behaviour if you're hypersensitised, even if you don't have typical food allergy symptoms.

Food allergies linked to behavioural disorder

Researchers have suspected food hypersensitivities to be a potential cause for behavioural disorders for decades. A 1949 case report described behavioural and mood disturbances in patients after they ate certain foods, such as milk and eggs. Their symptoms improved after removing the suspected foods from their diet, suggesting that a food hypersensitivity was the likely culprit.

However, I was intrigued that the patients had been able to eat the offending foods up until they chose to avoid them. In other words, they were asymptomatically sensitised, or tolerant, to the allergens. Several recent studies in people have supported the association between food allergies and various neuropsychiatric disorders, including depression, anxiety, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and autism.

They strengthen the possibility that some reactions to food allergens could involve the nervous system and manifest as behavioural disorders. However, the idea of food hypersensitivity causing neuropsychiatric disorders is still controversial because of inconsistencies across studies. Differences in the types of allergies, ethnic backgrounds, dietary habits and other factors among the study participants can produce conflicting results. More importantly, some studies included those with self-reported food allergies, while others included only those with lab-confirmed food allergies. This limited investigations to only symptomatic individuals.

Brain and behaviour

My laboratory tested whether food allergens could manifest as behavioural symptoms, particularly in asymptomatically sensitised individuals.

We wanted to find out whether eating offending foods could lead to brain inflammation and behavioural changes after sensitisation, even in the absence of other obvious severe reactions. To minimise the individual differences found in human studies, we decided to work with mice. We sensitised mice of the same age and genetic background to the common milk allergen ß-lactoglobulin, or BLG, and fed them the same diet in the same room.

We found that while BLG-sensitised mice produced moderately but significantly elevated levels of IgE, they did not show immediate allergic reactions.

> **Researchers have suspected food hypersensitivities to be a potential cause for behavioural disorders for decades; reports on the same date back to the 1900s!**

They could even eat food containing the milk allergen for two weeks without showing any obvious symptoms, despite maintaining elevated levels of IgE. This indicated that they were asymptomatically sensitised. We then observed whether they showed any changes in emotionally driven behavior. Because we could not ask mice how they felt, we deduced their "feelings" by noting changes from their normal, survival-oriented behaviour. Mice instinctively explore their environment to search for food and shelter while avoiding potential danger.

However, "anxious" mice tend to spend more time hiding to play it safe. We identified "depressed" mice by briefly holding them by the tail.

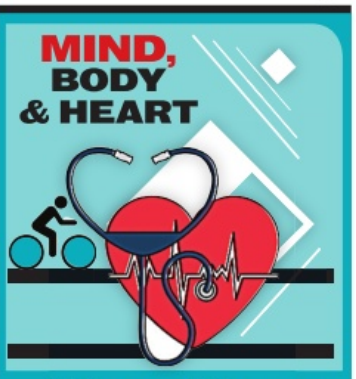
Chronic brain inflammation

Researchers have yet to study prolonged brain inflammation, or neuroinflammation, in people who are asymptomatically sensitised.

In general, though, chronic neuroinflammation is a known contributor to neurodegenerative diseases, such as multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's disease, although the exact causes of these diseases are unknown.

Considering how your brain responds to the food you eat puts a whole new meaning to the phrase "you are what you eat."

—By Kumi Nagamoto-Combs (The Conversation)



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a woman aged 42 and I've been with my husband, who's 45, for 12 years.
I always wanted kids, but was told it was unlikely, so we resigned ourselves to the fact we wouldn't have a family.
So, a few weeks ago, I was feeling unwell and went to my doctor thinking I might be going through an early menopause, only to find out that I'm pregnant.
We're still in shock! Obviously, believing I couldn't get pregnant, contraception was never a thing for us.
We're both happy, but really scared, too, as we never expected to be doing this at our stage in life. Plus, we'd made all these plans for the two of us - like travelling and moving to a smaller house, so we can buy a small place abroad. I'm worried about how I'll cope as a mum in my 40s.

COLEEN SAYS

I think as the pregnancy goes on and you feel more connected to the baby, the panic will subside and you'll start to get excited. Yes, it's a surprise, but it's a brilliant surprise!
Look, there's never a "right time" to do most things and even if you plan, life tends to have something else in mind. The good thing about plans is that they can be changed. Go with it and do lots of talking to each other about how you'll adapt, what you're looking forward to and what might be the challenges. It sounds like you have plenty of parents in your circle of family and friends, so lean on them. I'm sure they're excited and happy for you, which will give you confidence. But, it will take a little time to get your head around it.
There's no reason you can't still do those things you had planned (or some of them), but you'll just have a baby in tow to share it all with you. And remember, at one point, not so long ago, having a child was your dream, so it's just about working around it.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

Collateral garbage: Leaking leachate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Many auto tippers bring waste collected from households in and around Varthur onto the old bridge where garbage would be shifted or transferred to compactor vehicles. While transferring mixed waste into the compactor vehicle, the process generates leachate that leaks from the compactor onto the road and finally reaches the nearest drain or waterbody.

"We have been complaining to the authorities concerned to stop using the old bridge for transferring garbage into compactor vehicles as it has become a nuisance and a health hazard. Leachate generated during the transfer of mixed waste is being released into the lake, polluting the water. I want the BBMP to find a suitable location for transferring garbage from auto tippers into the compactor vehicles," said Jagadeesh Reddy of Varthur Rising.

When informed, former corporator of Varthur ward Pushpa BM said she has already told the BBMP Solid Waste Management Department and the garbage contractor to stop using the old bridge near Varthur Lake for

transferring garbage from auto tippers to compactor vehicles.

"The garbage contractor has identified a place near Panathur to use it as a garbage transfer centre," she said.

This nuisance is not only on the old bridge near Varthur but also at spots in Bellandur, Sarjapur, KR Puram and other areas. "Garbage transfer from auto tippers to compactor vehicles used to take place at Mahadevapura Lake, Yele Mallappa Shetty Lake and Gangashetty Lake.

We objected to using lake bunds for the transfer of garbage from auto tippers to compactor vehicles. The BBMP's Solid Waste Management department has stopped using these places for transferring garbage into compactor vehicles.

However, Vengaiah Lake bed is being used for transferring garbage into compactor vehicles from auto tippers. One can see leachate leaking from compactor vehicles and flowing into the lake. I want the BBMP to find a suitable location for transferring garbage into compactor vehicles," said civic activist Balaji Raghotham.

Seema Singh, a resident of Bellandur, said she has come across garbage contractors using open places, especially those places adjacent to stormwater drains, for transferring garbage from auto tippers into compactor vehicles.

"I think that garbage transfer at secondary points is not happening as per the norms. The garbage contractor has to ensure the place is clean after transferring mixed waste into the compactor vehicle from the auto tippers," said Singh.

Meanwhile, BBMP joint commissioner (Solid Waste Management) Parashuram Shinnalkar said he had already directed his subordinates to stop shifting garbage from auto tippers into compactor vehicles on the old bridge at Varthur. "I will ask my subordinates to visit Vangaiah Lake near KR Puram," he said.

However, BBMP special commissioner (Solid Waste Management) was not available for comment.

Notebooks for underprivileged children

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

not everyone can easily remember what was taught. So we decided to carry out a study resource collection drive from other private schools and apartments," Kalvin Richard from Vibgyor High Horamavu, Member of Iksha Foundation (Helping the youth), said.

The initiative involved collecting textbooks, notebooks and stationary from privileged schools and private institutions. The project started this year in June and was able to collect 4,500 books from several private schools and apartment complexes.

"The collected books are sent to libraries and children's homes. All the remaining paper is sent to a recycling plant which gives Iksha Foundation new, recycled notebooks that are then distributed to children. So far, Iksha has saved over 2.5 tons of paper from being wasted and has given books to 450 students. Iksha is working on expanding the project to three other states: West Bengal, Delhi and Haryana," said Nandika H from Ashoka University, Delhi. So far they have provided notebooks to three government schools — Kalkera Government High School, Chikkagubbi Government School and Channasandra Government School.

Jigisha Hota from the University of California, Los Angeles, pointed out some of the initial challenges the team faced: "As we started off, it was difficult to get appointments with school principals. We had to wait for long hours. However, when we spoke about our drive and initiative they readily agreed."

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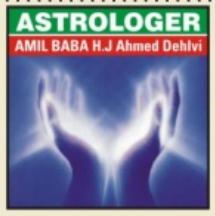

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Madhuri Ravishankar D/o Gopalapillai Vijayan Nair R/o A 102 Vajram Elina, Sri Vijayaraja Estate, Off Thanisandra Road Yelahanka Hobli, Chokkanahalli, B'luru-560064 have changed my name to Madhuri Nair for all purposes.

I, Rama Subba Reddy Chinta S/o Thirupal Reddy, R/o 92,Svs Homes, Hunasamarana - halli,B'luru-562157 have changed my name to RAMA SUBBA REDDY CHINTHA affidavit Dt. 09/12/2022 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Gayatri Mahesh Iyer W/O, Ramsundar Rajagopal R/o E504, Purva Midtown, Dooravani Nagar, Fci Godown Road, Bangalore-560016 have changed my name to Gayatri Iyer for all purposes.

I Vidushi W/O, Sai Surya Venkatesh Rachapudi R/o B-317, Smr Vinay Cascade, Jagdish Nagar, Bangalore - 560075 have changed my name to Vidushi Rachapudi

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

No mikes please

During a recent press conference, Housing Minister V Somanna and Chamarajpet MLA BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan were surprised to see mikes in front of them even after the press conference was over. Somanna appealed to journos to first remove the mikes from his table as he was scared that private talk might become public. Seems like previous incidents when the switched on mike caused embarrassment are hard to forget.

Secret of physique

Sriramulu appears to be a serious politician. But, recently he opened up about his student days at a college function. Sriramulu recalled how he was made to undergo strict training to become a sportsperson. "Thanks to my teachers, I played volleyball at the state level. In fact, even at 51 years old, my physique is so good that even today if I wear jeans and T-shirt, girls would look at me," he said. He also recalled how he was known for his 'goondagiri'. "Wait, my goondagiri was against the feudal system. This is the reason I had been to jail at least 14 times as I was fighting for the poor!"

Do not disturb

Congress leader Siddaramaiah was recently seen verbally shooing away supporters when he saw that they were not allowing his son to eat properly. During a recent programme in Mysuru, Siddaramaiah and his son-MLA Dr Yateendra were having lunch. A few supporters began pestering Yateendra with a few queries. The soft-spoken Yateendra was giving a patient hearing, but his father thought that his son should eat first. He told off the people asking them to let his son eat first.

High drama

Hundreds land up at Chief Minister Basavaraj S Bommai's house daily with petitions. However, recently, the police were baffled by a middle-aged man who wanted to meet the CM to show him a video. The police said that he can only give a petition, but he broke down in front of the cops insisting that he would not leave without making sure the CM watches the video on his phone. The police wanted to know what was so important in that video, but the man wanted to show it only to the CM. Finally, the police had to turn him away.

Sridhar Vivan

Poll 'yaatris' to take centrestage in K'taka

As Assembly polls come close, no party wants to be left behind in campaigning; state witnesses several yatras, many more in pipeline

With less than six months left for the Assembly polls to be held, Karnataka is already experiencing the heat and dust of poll campaigning.

The multitude of political yatras that the state is witnessing and will see in the coming months is an indication to it.

The state's political players are becoming roadies in their quest for victory at the hustings. The southern state with 224 assembly seats is due to have elections by May 2023.

The stunning return of the BJP to power in Gujarat for the seventh consecutive time with a record number of winning candidates has spurred the ruling party into aiming for a victory in Karnataka too. On the other hand, the Congress' victory in Himachal Pradesh comes as a shot in the arm for the opposition party in Karnataka.

Keeping aside issues like size of the states or the margin of victory, the just concluded Gujarat, and Himachal Pradesh assembly polls have thrown up a 1-1 verdict for the BJP and Congress respectively. The focus now shifts to Karnataka where the two national parties are the frontrunners in the power stakes.

The Karnataka leg of Rahul Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' (BJY) in September-October set ball rolling in the state. Starting off from Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu on September 7, the BJY entered Karnataka on September 30 and ended on October 15. The party used the yatra to aggressively attack the Bommai-led ruling party on the issue of corruption, communalism and farmers problems.

The ruling BJP hit back with its 'Jan Sankalp Yatra'. Beginning on October 11 and concluding on December 25, the ruling party is reaching out to fifty assembly constituencies through this exercise spearheaded by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and former CM BS Yediyurappa.

While the Congress is confident that it will return to power in the state in 2023, Bommai has been emphatic that the opposition party does not stand any chance of victory in the state.

The Karnataka leg of Rahul Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in September-October set the ball rolling in the state; soon after this BJP took out a Sankalp Yatra

Karnataka, however, may prove to be far more difficult for the BJP to conquer than Gujarat. The party is mired in corruption charges, and is under fire on infrastructure shortcomings in the capital city. For the Congress, apart from Kerala, Karnataka is the only southern state where it retains considerable political traction. However, the party has its fair share of internal politics to make victory a reasonably tough proposition.

Despite their public posturing, the rivalry between KPCC president D.K. Shiv Kumar and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is an open secret.

Party sources claim that the two leaders have shored up plans to lead separate bus yatras from different parts of the state to drum up support for the Congress.

Siddaramaiah's bus yatra will begin from the north and DK Shiva Kumar will set off from the south, a party source said.

Meanwhile, the Janata Dal (Secular) set up by former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda has its own plans for the forthcoming assembly polls. Despite being a marginal player, the party has emerged as a kingmaker on different occasions resulting in its leader HD Kumaraswamy becoming Chief Minister on two occasions - in 2006 and later in 2018. The party hit the roads in November with its 'Panchratna yatre' from Mulbagal in Kolar district. Kumaraswamy said their target is 123 seats out of the 224 assembly seats at stake. While this may be more poll rhetoric, observers feel that the party needs to stay relevant. **– IANS**

NDA-type plans for mid-level cops

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday favoured training for middle-level police personnel on the lines of National Defence Academy (NDA) training and said that low-rank police personnel and IPS-rank officers will get the best training but not the middle-level personnel.

Bommai was addressing the investiture ceremony held for the presentation of the President's Police medal to the police personnel at a colourful function held in Raj Bhavan in the presence of Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot on Sunday.

He said low-rank police personnel and IPS-rank officers get the best training but not mid-level personnel.

"Training for middle-level personnel is also a must to make them more efficient. A separate training centre, syllabus and various courses are required for them as it will help them to work with more dedication," he said.

He said that the police force has been modernised as well as the FSL labs. The state-of-the-art FSL labs are required since they play an essential role in the detection of crime, and two labs are already being established in Hubballi and Ballari.

Bommai said police are responsible for maintaining law and order and crime prevention. Of late, technology-based crimes are on the rise but the evidence is left out in this mode of crime. The use of technology in police investigation must be encouraged and the police need to be strengthened further. "The grants required for this purpose will be provided in the next budget to do this with the help of experts," he said. **– IANS**

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farnaz

AFI condoles death of gentleman sprinter Kenneth

Athletics Federation of India (AFI) on Sunday condoled the death of Olympian sprinter Kenneth Powell, member of the 1970 Asian Games 4x100m relay bronze medal winning team and Arjuna Award winner.

The 82-year-old, described as a gentleman sprinter, passed in Bengaluru.

AFI president Adille J Sumariwalla said the sport had lost a gentleman sprinter in Kenneth Powell's passing. "Indian athletics grew in stature back in the 60s because of the efforts of athletes like Kenneth Powell who won 19 titles in sprint events in the National Open Championships and National Inter-State Championships," he said.

"He overcame the disappointment of not being cleared for the Asian Games in Jakarta in 1962 and played a key role in the Indian 4x100m relay team making to the semifinal of the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo. Similarly, left out of the Asian Games in Bangkok in 1966, he remained motivated and helped India get the relay bronze in 1970 in Bangkok," he said.

Born on April 20, 1940, in Kolar, Kenneth Powell's first major competition was the 1957 National School Games in Calcutta where he finished third. It was not until he was 19 when he moved to Bangalore to work with the Indian Telephone Industries that he took up athletics seriously under the eyes of Rangers Club coach Krishna.

Kenneth Powell rose to claim the sprint double in the inaugural National Inter-State Athletics Championships at Allahabad in February 1963, winning the 100m in 10.8 seconds and the 200m in 22.0 seconds. He repeated the feat in 1968 in Madras, winning the 100m dash in 10.7 seconds and the 200m in 21.8 seconds. Five years after he gave up competitive athletics in 1970, Kenneth Powell represented Karnataka in the National Handball Championships.

He returned to the track and won the 40-44 age group 100m silver in the Asian Masters Athletics meet in Singapore in 1981. Later, he also made it to the final of the 45-49 age group in World Masters Championships in Melbourne. **– IANS**

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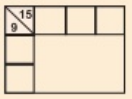
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

- I am a 3 digit number
- My digits add up to 14
- My tens digit six more than my ones digit
- My hundreds digit seven less than my tens digit

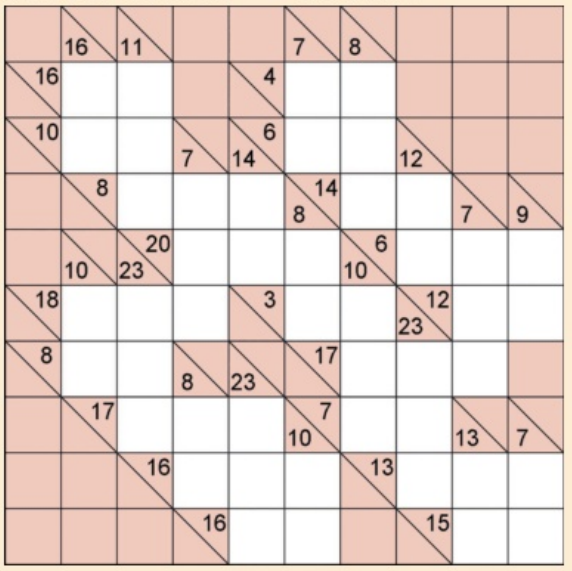
What number I am?

Kakuro

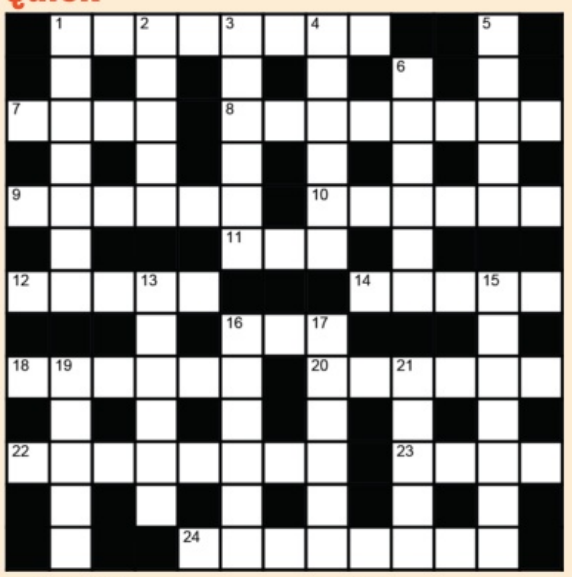
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 On time (8)
7 Satirical piece (4)
8 Roles or uses (8)
9 European super-power (6)
10 Magician as of Oz (6)
11 Karl Marx's ___ Kapital (3)
12 Furtively steal (5)
14 Ex-Windies skipper Adams (5)
16 Large in size (3)
18 You will find the Bangalore Golf Club on this road (6)
20 Resists or repulses (6)
22 Agreeable (8)
23 In good order (4)
24 Depend or trust? (4,4)

DOWN

1 India's nuclear testing site? (7)
2 Out? (3,2)
3 Struck light blows (6)
4 Archer's missiles? (6)
5 Dismal, gloomy (5)
6 Russian greyhound (6)
13 Inquiring of (6)
15 Large number (7)
16 Adieu (3-3)
17 Desirous or covetous (6)
19 Prepared for battle (5)
21 __ __ with : bear or tolerate? (3,2)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS U

EKYB JCQ SFBBCA LYA F SCX-NUDXYBA FBJ CAKYI EFJ NFJ JCQITYUM CBY.

Linemaro

I want to get my eyes tested. Can't take them off you

Mindchow

Love is that condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own

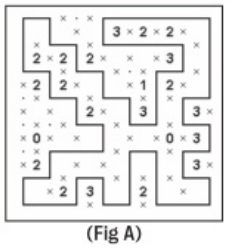
Joke of the day

Do you serve woman at this bar?
No sir, you must bring your own

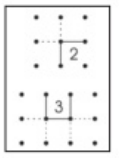
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



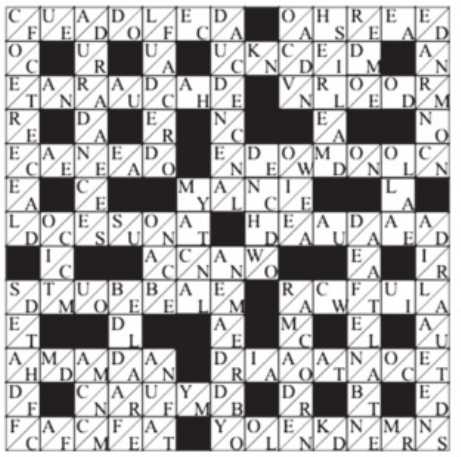
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

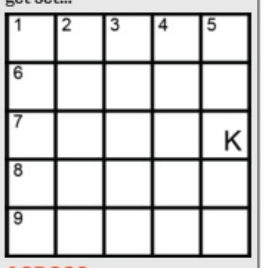
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 It Hun; 6 As Nan; 7 Rink B; 8 Cake E; 9 Or Dug

DOWN

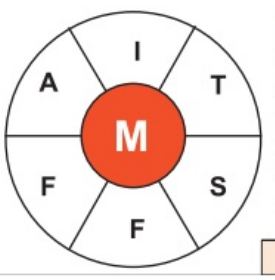
1 A bung; 2 Acorn; 3 Auk hi; 4 Niner; 5 T desk

Mensapuzzle

What letter comes next?

A, C, F, J, O, ?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

7				4				1
3		1				8		7
	5			9			2	
2	7		9		4		3	6
9	3		1		8		7	2
	8			3			1	
5		3				2		4
4				8				9

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 5
2 6 6 7

Medium = 37
4 8 9 9

Hard = 18
1 6 7 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sandwich is shorter. 2. Pillow is smaller. 3. Doorway is wider. 4. Lampshade is different. 5. Toothpick is added on top of sandwich. 6. Back of chair is higher.

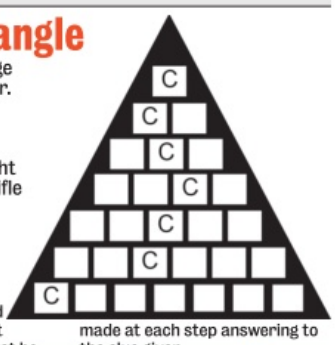
Riddler

In this teaser you have been given two (2) clues in each line. Each answer to the clue comprises six (6) letters. Each 6-letter word differs by only one (1) letter, which I have given you. Your task is to discover the answers to the clues provided. The order of the letters do not change.

1. Confuse R _ _ _ _ _ / C _ _ _ _ _ Bovines
2. Invent _ _ _ _ T _ / _ _ _ _ S _ Furrow

Alpha triangle

1 Computer language
2 Common Era, abbr.
3 Bartender's need
4 Paddy grain
5 More congenial
6 'Phedre' playwright
7 Light automatic rifle



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

9-24
HERE'S THE LATEST PALEFACE TREATY, CHIEF!
THIS THING CAN'T BE LEGAL! IT WASN'T WRITTEN BY A LAWYER!
HOW CAN YOU TELL?
THERE'S TWO WHOLE WORDS IN HERE I CAN UNDERSTAND!

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

SO, MARSHMALLOW, WHAT'LL YOU DO NOW THAT SUMMER'S OVER?
I'LL MOVE ON TO SOME SEASONAL TEMP WORK
SEASONAL TEMP WORK?
HOT COCOA, BABY
www.creators.com

Hart of the city

I DITCHED ALYSSA TO DO SOME INVESTIGATING ON MY OWN.
WHAT'S THIS...
HEY, WHAT COLOR WAS ALYSSA'S TOY MICROPHONE?
PINK, OF COURSE.
OF COURSE...

Crankshaft

THREE WEEKS LATER.
WE JUST GOT OUR FIRST CHECK FROM MASON FOR OUR WORK HERE.
LET'S SEE...
OH MY!
THAT'S ACTUALLY MORE THAN WE USED TO PAY OURSELVES!
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may feel dull. You may be dissatisfied with things. You may not enjoy your day. You may be a victim of arrogance. It may affect both your professional and domestic life. You may internally feel a lack of confidence, which may stop you from doing something creative at work.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may feel energetic. You may perform efficiently at work. Your hard work may pay you off now, which may boost your self-confidence. Property-related disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved now. A meeting with an influential person may boost your network. Disputes with your partner may also be resolved.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you are blessed by the moon, which can make you happy. You are polite with the people around you. You may take some difficult decisions in business with the help of your family members. You are likely to get a big order with the help of your communication skills, which may boost your business.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. You may have good internal strength. You will enjoy it at work. You could also enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may improve domestic harmony. You are likely to make new plans to start a new project. Your perfectionism may help you to implement the plans successfully. Job seekers may find a good job. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be disappointed. You are advised to control your arrogance, otherwise you may face some losses due to your harsh way of speaking to others. Lovebirds should be careful while making discussions on worthless topics, otherwise, the relationship may get affected.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today there may be peace in your mind. You may plan to invest some capital in your business, which may increase your liquidity. Your earnings may boost your bank balance. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may enhance harmony in your family life. Singles are likely to find a good match. Lovebirds may take decisions to get married.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you are blessed by the moon. Things may be under control. You will enjoy it at work and your focus should be good. This will reflect into your way of working. Your wisdom will help you to go ahead and take difficult decisions in terms of your profession. Your past investments are likely to give profits.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today your moon is positive and your health may be good. You are likely to visit some spiritual place with family or friends. You may plan to donate some money to charity or help needy people. Property-related deals are likely to be closed. You may plan for an overseas trip related to work. You may also plan for your higher education.

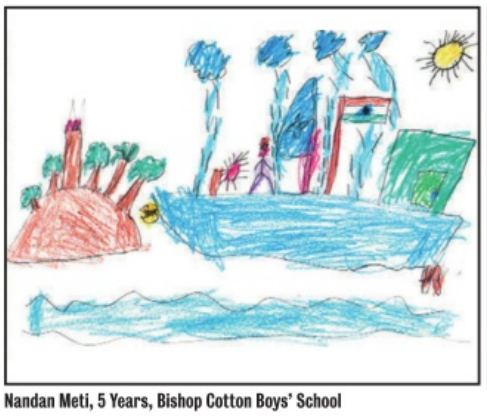
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today your moon is negative. You may be a victim of conspiracies. You are advised to avoid being involved in them. Your strong willpower and help from elders may protect you from this messy situation. You are advised to avoid arguments in your domestic life. You should also avoid rash driving or adventure tours.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may be very happy. Your losses may convert into profits. Your boss may be happy and will appreciate your work. You are likely to see some changes into your place or position at work in terms of promotions. You are likely to have control over opponents and hidden enemies. Lovebirds may take important decisions in terms of marriage.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may be busy at work. You may be enthusiastic, which may speed up your projects. You may be able to take quick decisions, which will boost your business. You are likely to start new innovations in partnerships. Investments in fixed assets is not advised.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you are blessed by the moon and may perform well at work. You may expect some promotions or transfers in terms of gains. You may also plan to change your current job. Your relationship with your seniors will be strong. Old health issues will be cured now.

KIDZONE



Nandan Meti, 5 Years, Bishop Cotton Boys' School

Sundeep, 13 Years, Sri Vidyanikethan School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
A+B+C=14
B=C+6
A=B+7
A+B+C=14
A+(C+6)+C=14
(B+7)+(C+6)+C=14
(C+6+7)+(C+6)+C=14
3C=9
C=3
B=9
A=2
ANS: 293

BULL'S EYE
mast, MASTIFF, miff, mist

FAST FIVE

U	N	H	I	T
N	A	A	N	S
B	R	I	N	K
A	C	K	E	E
G	O	U	R	D

STRIKE OUT

C	U	D	D	L	E	D	A	H	E	A	D			
O	U	A	U	N	D	I	D	A						
E	A	R	A	C	H	E	V	R	O	O	M			
R	A	E	N		A		O							
C	A	N	E	D		N	E	W	M	O	O	N		
A	M	M	A	N		R	I	O	T	A	C	T		
T		L		A		C		L		A				
S	T	U	B	B	L	E		A	W	F	U	L		
	C		M	A	C	E				L				
D	O	E	S	N	T		H	E	A	D	E	D		
		C		A	N	N	O		E		I			
F	A	C	E	T		Y	O	N	K	E	R	S		
	F		G								E			
A	M	E	N	A	B	L	E		T	R	I	M		
	R		I		E		U		L					
S	A	N	K	E	Y		R	E	P	E	L	S		
		S		B	I	G				I				
S	N	E	A	K			J	I	M	M	Y			
		A												
F	R	A	N	C	E		W	I	Z	A	R	D		
H		I		P		O		R		A				
S	K	I	T		P	U	R	P	O	S	E	S		
O		O		A		R		B		R				
D			R	E	L	Y	U	P	O	N				

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE
U: AbCdeFghIJ
klmnOpqrstU

QUOTE UNCODE
When you cannot get a compliment any other way pay yourself one.

RIDDLER
1. Battle Cattle,
2. Create Crease

SUDOKU

4	1	7	2	8	5	3	6	9
5	9	3	6	1	7	2	8	4
6	8	2	4	3	9	7	1	5
9	3	4	1	6	8	5	7	2
1	6	5	3	7	2	9	4	8
2	7	8	9	5	4	1	3	6
8	5	6	7	9	1	4	2	3
3	4	1	5	2	6	8	9	7
7	2	9	8	4	3	6	5	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
C, CE, Ice, Rice, Nicer, Racine, Carbine.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 – 6 – 2 + 6 = 5
Medium
4 x 9 + 9 – 8 = 37
Hard
5 + 6 x 1 + 7 = 18

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 15, Issue No 121 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Fourth Estate Ltd, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Road, Bengaluru 560099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

 # Nasty side of Tom Cruise

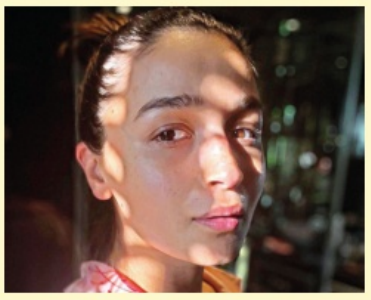
Actress Emily Blunt has claimed her "Edge Of Tomorrow" co-star Tom Cruise swore at her while she was crying on the set of the action film

New mom glow

Bollywood actor Alia Bhatt, on Sunday, shared a couple of beautiful sunkissed selfies. Taking to Instagram, Alia dropped the pictures which she captioned, "sunday mornings are for finding some great light & aimlessly conducting a photoshoot in my bathroom. happy Sunday."

In the pictures, Alia could be seen donning a pink nightsuit with her hair tied up in a bun.

Soon after the 'Raazi' actor shared the pictures, fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. Actor Deepika Padukone commented," Why do I smell #ashwagandhabounce ?."



Actor Sonam Kapoor commented, "Baby mama glow." A fan commented, " Beautiful mommy @aliaabhatt ." The 'Brahmastra' couple Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor welcomed a baby girl, Raha, on November 6.

Meanwhile, Alia was recently seen in the sci-fi action film 'Brahmastra: Part 1- Shiva' alongside Ranbir, Amitabh Bachchan and Mouni Roy.

Helmed by Ayan Mukerji, the film was declared a blockbuster hit.

She will be next seen in Karan Johar's upcoming romantic film 'Rocky aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani' opposite Ranveer Singh, Dharmendra, Jaya Bachchan, and Shabana Azmi. The film is all set to hit the theatres on April 28, 2023.

Apart from that, she also has director Farhan Akhtar's next film 'Jee Le Zara' opposite Katrina Kaif and Priyanka Chopra. **-ANI**

Humour me

On 5th wedding anniversary, Anushka is all quirky

Bollywood actor Anushka Sharma, on Sunday, sent warm wishes to her husband Virat Kohli on the occasion of their 5th wedding anniversary.

Taking to Instagram, Anushka shared a string of quirky pictures which she captioned, "What better day than today to post these lovely pictures to celebrate us, my love! Pic 1 - me knowing you've always got my back. Pic 2- forever holding gratitude in our hearts (both getting incredibly lucky) Pic 3 - You resting on hospital bed a day-after my long and painful labour. Pic 4 - Us keeping fine taste in things Pic 5- some random fellow Pic 6- you making most of my photos un-postable with ur unique expressions. Pic 7- CHEERS TO US, MY LOVE TODAY, TOMORROW & FOREVER."

In the first picture, Anushka dropped a morphed poster of her horror film 'Pari' with Virat's face on a ghost standing behind her.

In one of the pictures, the Indian cricketer could be seen sleeping with her daughter Vamika behind him.

Soon after the 'Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi' actor shared the post, fans swamped the comment section and dropped heart and fire emoticons.

Virat commented, "You definitely have the best photos of me."

Actor Kiara Advani dropped red heart emoticons in the comment section.

Virat and Anushka tied the knot on December 11 in Italy and are one of the most loved celebrity couples.

On the work front, Anushka recently surprised everyone with her cameo in 'Qala'. Her presence in the film was kept a closely guarded secret. Backed by Anushka's brother, Karnesh Sharma's production house Clean Slate Filmz, the film stars Tripti Dimri, Swastika Mukherjee and Babil Khan. It marks Babil's official acting debut in films. In the upcoming months, Anushka will be seen essaying the role of the iconic Indian pace bowler Jhulan Goswami in the much-talked-about film Chakda Xpress. **-ANI**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Award-winner

The multilingual movie Yad Bhavam Tad Bhavati is set to join the list of Kannada movies that have won awards at film festivals. Yad Bhavam Tad Bhavati is said to have bagged over 50 awards at various film festivals where it was screened.

Amit Rao has handled the megaphone for this movie apart from writing script, screenplay and playing the lead. According to Rao, the movie has been made in Kannada, Tamil and Telugu.

"The movie has three different characters. I play all three. I was motivated to make this film after I watched a Hollywood movie with a similar concept. It means how you treat the world and how the world treats you," said Rao.

Yad Bhavam Tad Bhavati is Rao's second movie. Prior to this, he directed and played the lead role in Hawala. The movie, released in August 2020, received rave reviews from critics. He has been acting in TV serials for more than 18 years.

Yad Bhavam Tad Bhavati was shot at Channapatna for 20 days. Its teaser was released at Renukamba Preview Theater by Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce president Ba Ma Hareesh. Many prominent personalities of Sandalwood attended the function.

Glopixs, a creative production company specialising in feature films and digital platforms, will release the movie.

Harmonious life

Bhaskar Naik from Udupi has embarked on making a movie to convey a message on the importance of communal harmony. A song for the movie titled Kudru was filmed at Abhiman Studios in the city recently.

"Kudru means an island in Tulu. I have written the script for this movie and Madhu YG Halli is the director. The story revolves around the island where Hindus, Muslims, and Christians maintain communal harmony and lead a peaceful life. Its shooting was held at Udupi, Bengaluru, Goa and Saudi Arabia," said Naik. "Namratha Malla from Delhi is shaking a leg for the item song. With this song, we have wrapped up shooting for the film," he said.

Madhu said Kudra is his maiden movie as a director. "The movie highlights how a WhatsApp message creates problems at the island and how people from different communities solve the problem. The specialty of this movie is that 70% of its shooting was held in the rain," said Madhu.

Some action and some drama

BOND RAVI (KANNADA)

3.0 RATING ★★★★★

- **DIRECTOR** Prajwal
- **ACTORS** GPramod, Kajal Kunder, Shobharaj, Ravi Kale, Ravi Prakash, Vijay Chander, Girish Shivanna.
- **Duration** 148 minutes
- **Certification** UA

Bond Ravi is a heady mix of action and sentiments. The story is about Ravi alias Bond Ravi (Pramod) who is ready to do anything for money. A crafty advocate (Ravi Prakash) asks him to be a proxy in a murder committed by a politician, Bhujanga (Shobaraj). The advocate promises him Rs 25 lakh and bail within a few days. He accepts the deal and surrenders to the police. Within hours of entering the prison, he has to fight with inmates and gains notoriety. He begins earning money by using a mobile phone brought, hidden in bread, into the prison by one of the prison staff (Girish Shivanna).

He gets a phone call from Shwetha (Kajal Kunder), an employee of a financial institution, asking whether he needs a personal loan. He chides Shwetha for calling him, but eventually falls in love with her. As expected, the advocate delays the process to release Ravi on bail. Meanwhile, Rudra (Ravi Kale), one of the prisoners and a victim of Bhujanga, arranges bail for Ravi on a condition that he has to kill Bhujanga. After being released on bail, Ravi and Shwetha go to Chikkamagulru to settle down. He starts working as a driver for tourists. He meets a police officer (Dharma) who comes with his family to visit the area. How Ravi and Shwetha's lives turn out is what the film is about.

Pramod has excelled as a commercial hero in the pre-intermission scenes. His body language and acting skills in action scenes are appreciable. He has the qualities to establishm himself as a commercial hero. But, he would do well to hone his acting skills in emotional scenes.

Kajal looks beautiful and has acted well. Ravi Kale and Shobaraj are convincing villains. Telugu actor Ravi Prakash has provided good support. Mano Murthy's music is tolerable. Cinematographer KS Chandrasekhar has done a neat job behind the camera to capture the scenic locations of Chikkamagaluru.

Prajwal has handled the megaphone with aplomb but some of the prison scenes are far from convincing. The court scene where the hero holds an advocate's collar is incongruous. The ending of this movie is quite unique.

It is worth a watch for masala movie lovers.

-Y Maheswara Reddy